

# How to make Good (data) protection science-fiction

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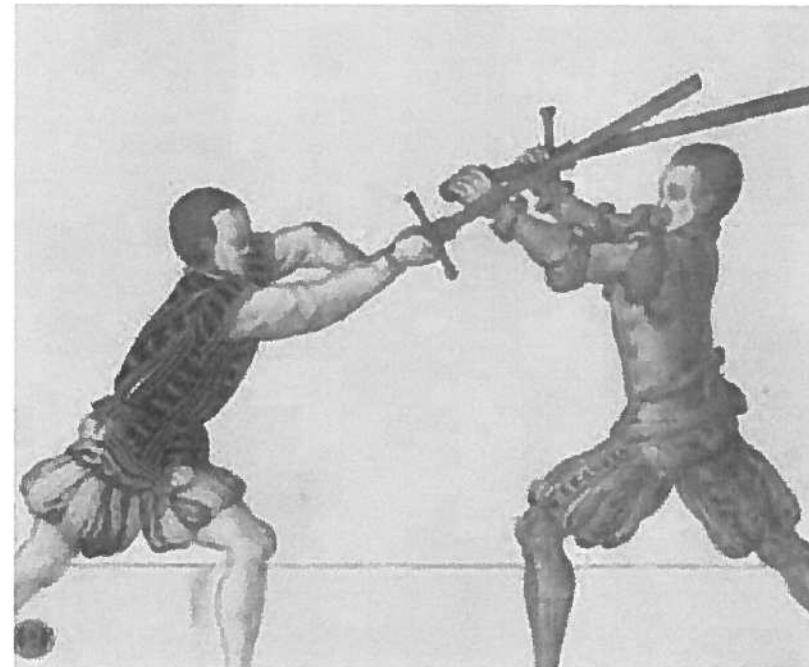
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# Sci-Fi authors are smart, lazy people !

- They just :
  - Re-vamp things that exist(ed)
  - Trigger the same good ol' springs of the human soul that have been (ab)used for millennia



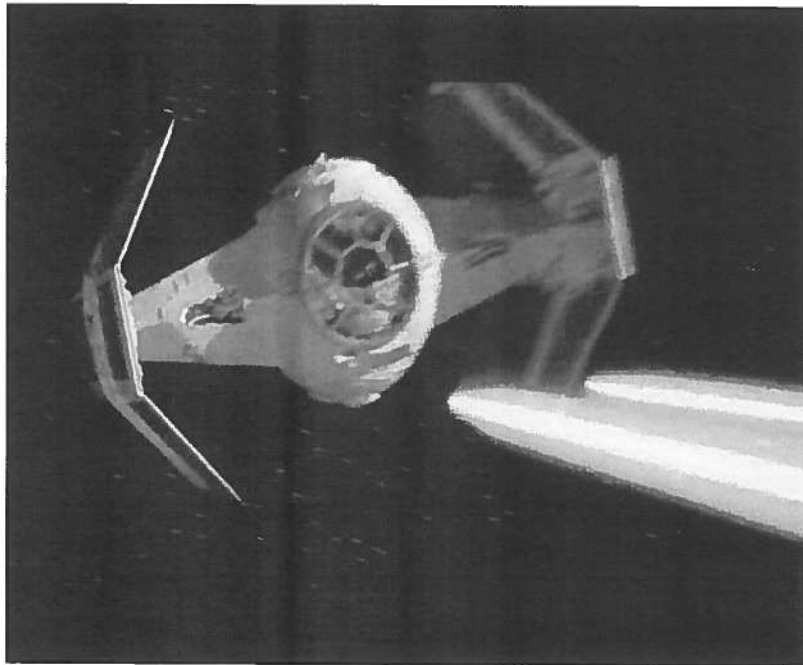
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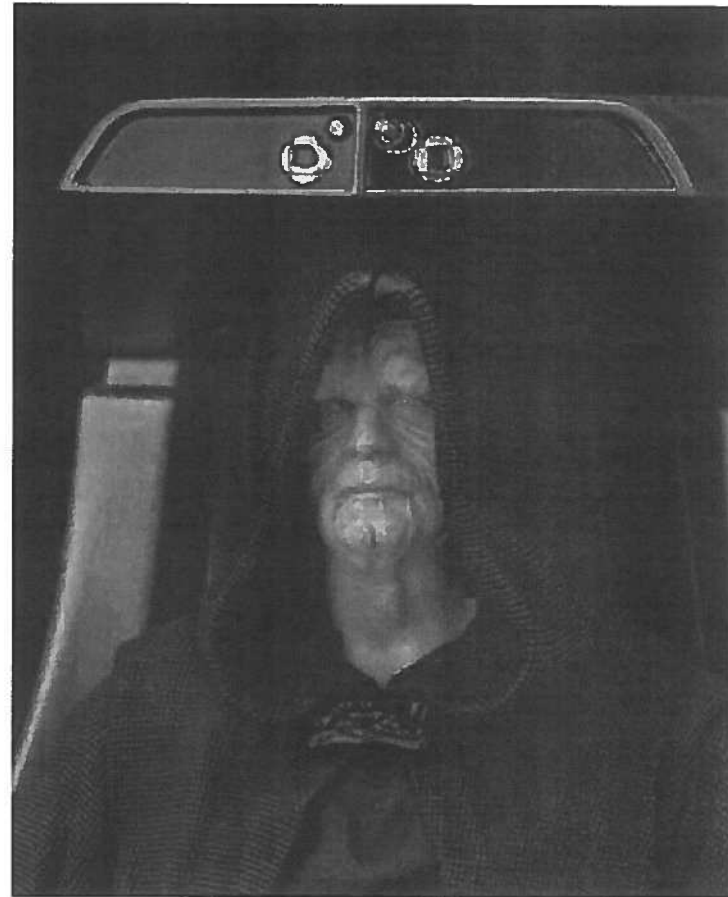
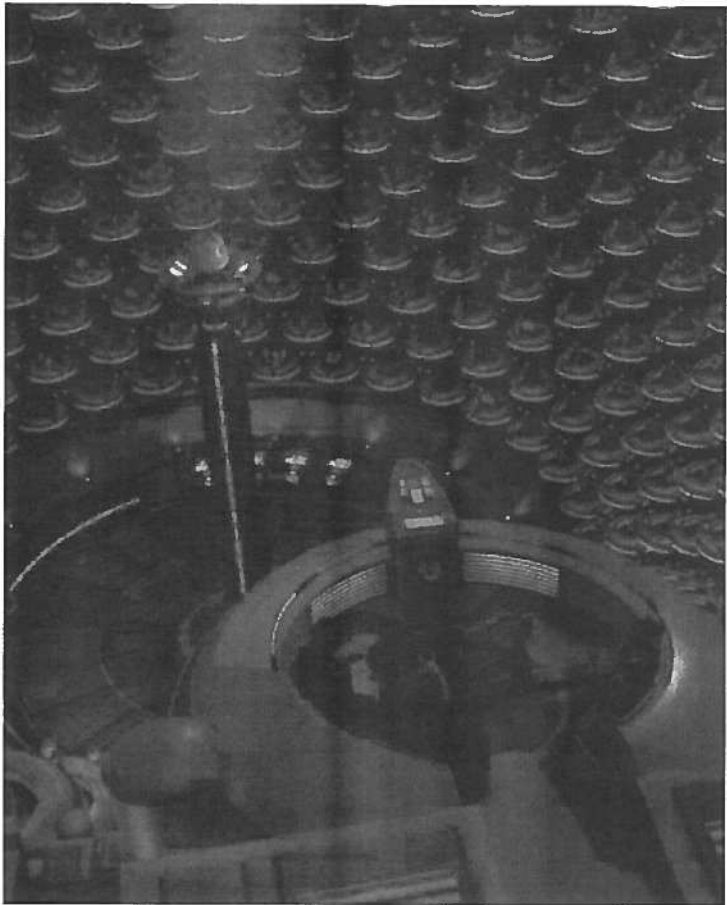
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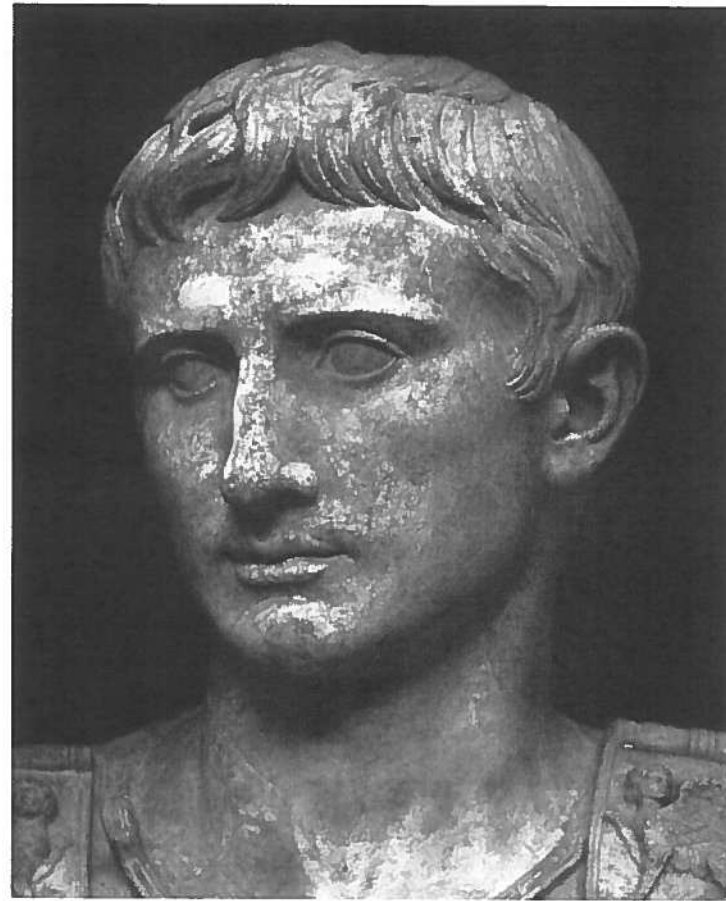
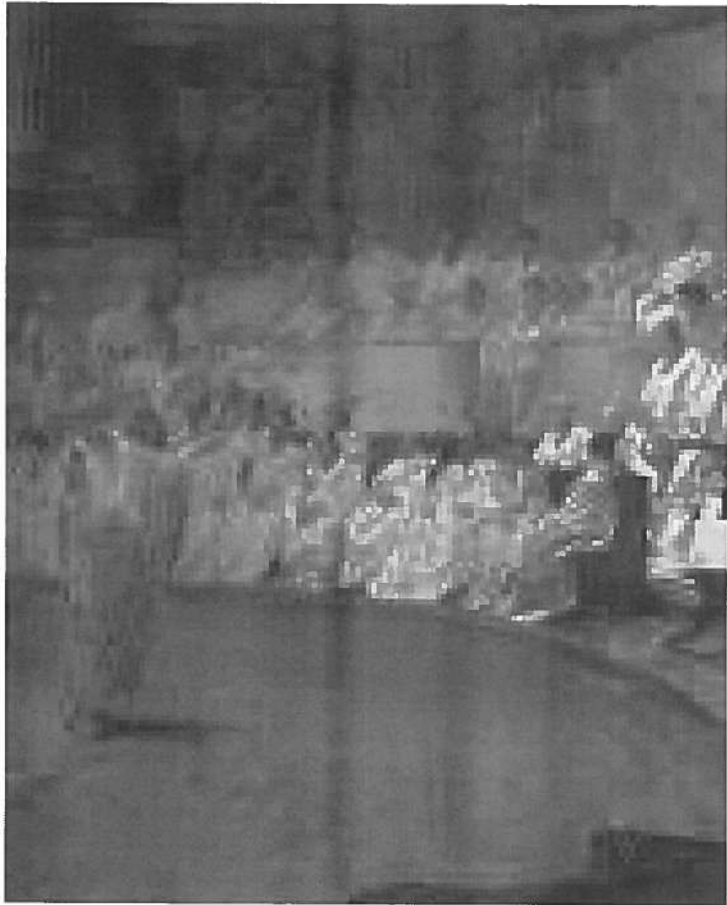
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- It also works well for political upheavals



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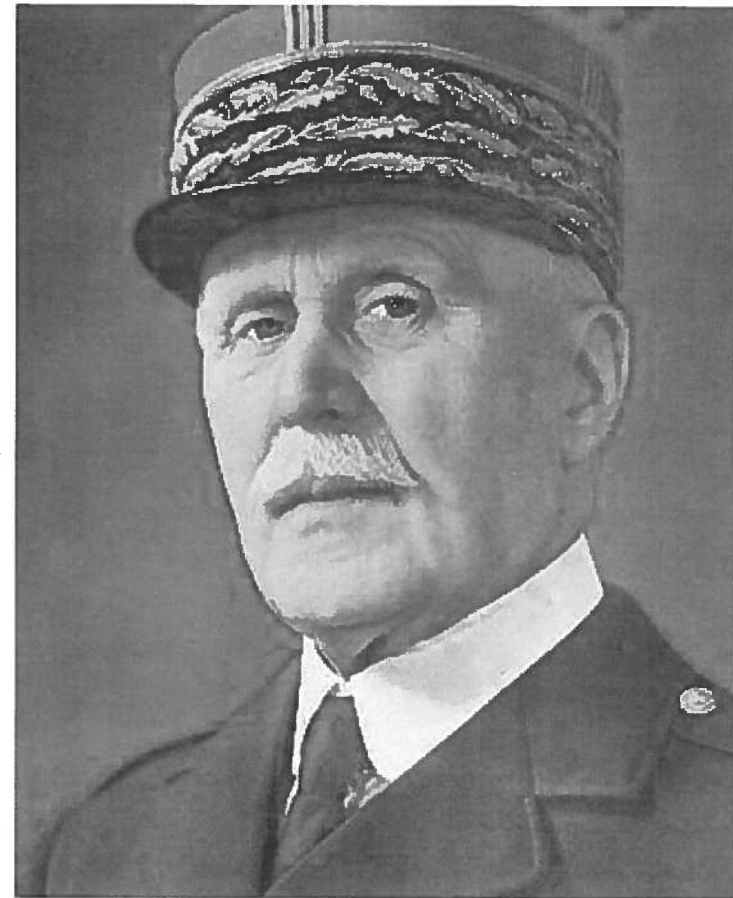
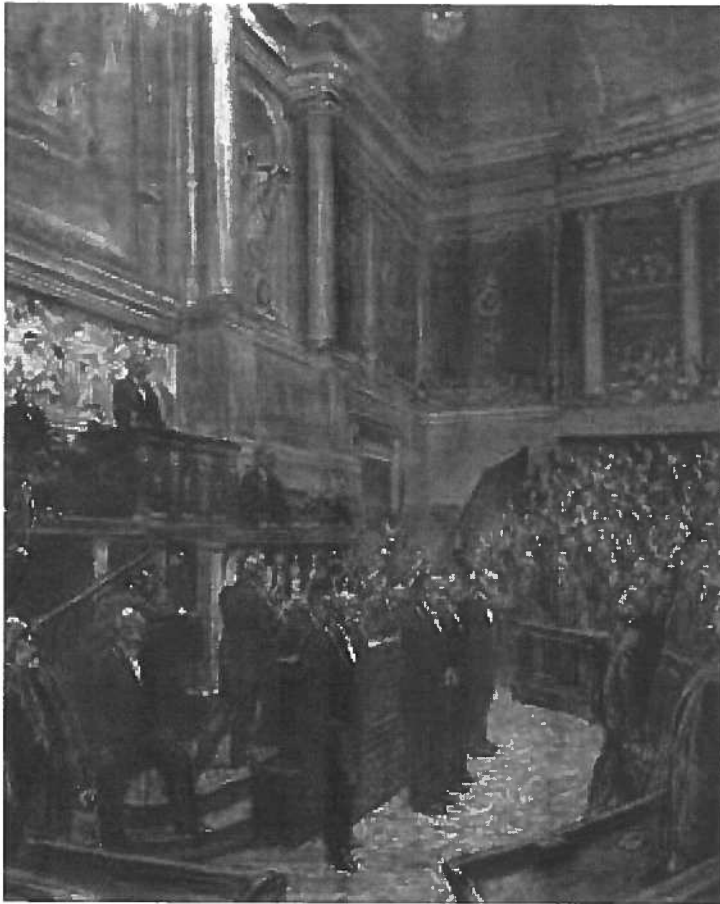
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# Now that we know the trick...

...Let's start plotting our new movie :  
« Will there be any privacy left in 2030,  
anyway ? »



# People love happy endings...

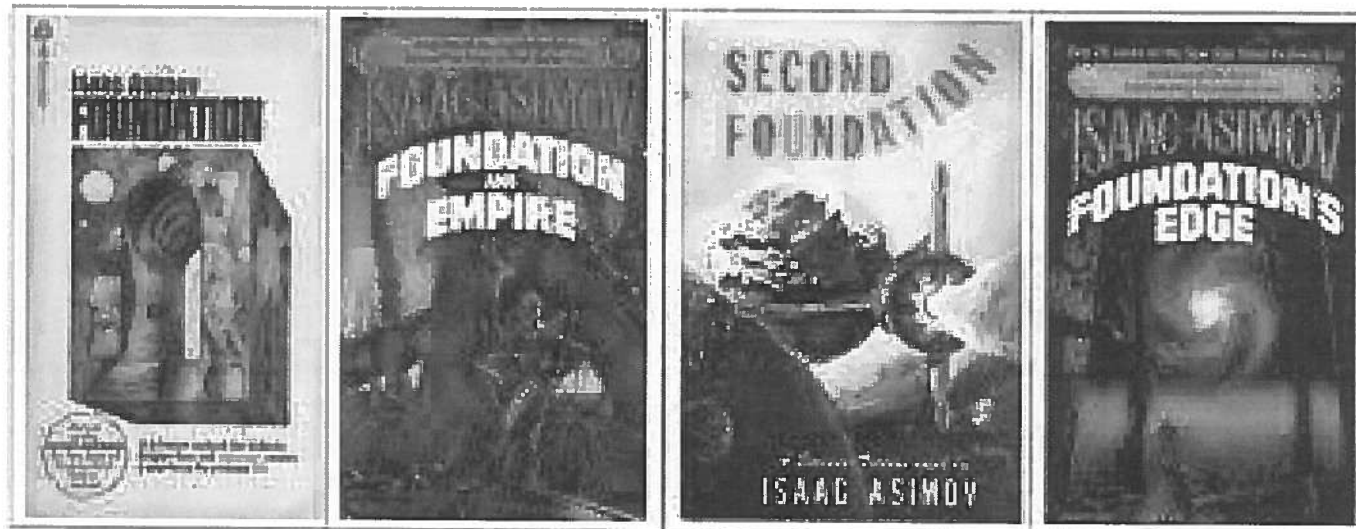
...So better rephrase the mission :  
« Can we devise a synopsis in which there will be  
some privacy left in 2030 ? »

# What we can learn from the past (1)

- “Empires” are less likely to favor privacy (and human rights in general) than “republics”
  - More specifically : republics that are democratic regimes
  - So we should side with the “republic”
    - In spite of the fact that, in the Dark side, they have cookies...
- There is no reason to believe that an “empire” will not emerge again in the future
  - In the past 2000 years, “empires” have been much more common than “republics”
  - The “democratic postulate” should be abandoned, for our own safety

# Fiction rule #1

- ▣ “Republics” should take all necessary steps to protect their populations against the harmful consequences of their possible replacement by an “empire”
  - ▣ In particular, they should actively anticipate their deaths and prepare the conditions for their rebirths



# What we can learn from the past (2)

- The common assumption that increasing mass surveillance in “republics” is the symptom of an “Orwellian” society is wrong
- The roots of the current trend of increasing mass surveillance are to be searched in Étienne de la Boétie's “*Discourse on Voluntary Servitude*” (1548)



# Fiction rule #2

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- “Republics” should never use psychological levers and tools that make populations think they would be “safer” in an “empire”
  - This kind of propaganda is just good for “empires” themselves
- This would be a “negative outcome” game : no liberty AND no security either...

# What we can learn from the past (3)

- The assumption that “security” and “liberty” belong to the same value space has to be challenged
  - Summing carrots and cabbages ?
- The “right to security” (“*sécurité*”) is a very recent and flawed construction, that weakens the “right to safety” (“*sûreté*”) on top of which modern “republics” have been built
- Long-term risks of privacy-harming measures must always be considered
- The solutionnist paradigm is a dead end
  - As of Jacques Ellul's “*Technological bluff*”





# Fiction rule #3

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- Any “republic” should implement “Democratic specifications” as its core data processing principles
  - Often implemented as “privacy by design” concerns
- E.g. :
  - A “republic” should never keep the biometry of its citizens for administrative purposes
    - Biometry should always be “at the hand” of the citizens
  - Identity systems should be fallible by design
    - Enabling “real-fake” IDs saves many lives in the long run
    - No “deduplication” of ID data, hence no centralized biometry
  - Make sure coercive measures are not scalable
    - One single person may not control too many

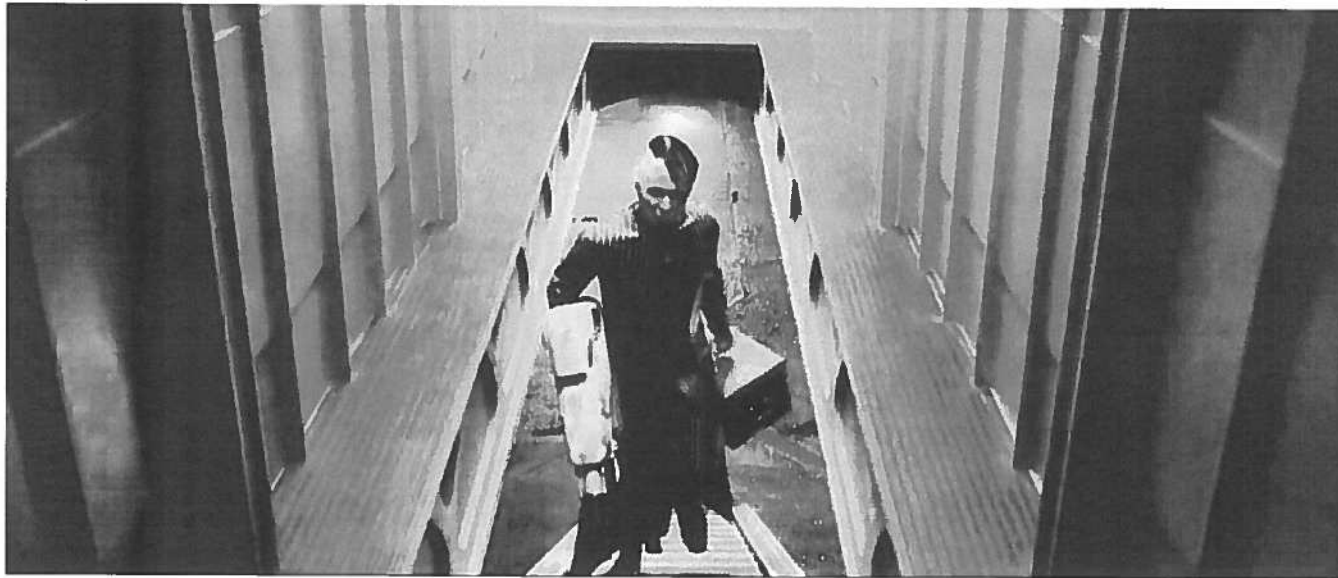
# « Will there be privacy left in 2030 ? »

- We are not passive players
- There will be... if we decide so !
- So we should rather ask : *“What can each of us do in order for privacy to be alive and kicking in 2030 ?”*

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“If you want something done, do yourself !” (J.-B. E. Zorg, in *The 5<sup>th</sup> Element*)